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Church of God  
**Evangel**



Let us no longer be afraid to be dogmatic. To be dogmatic is not to be dictatorial. To be dogmatic is simply to be confident concerning that which we know to be the truth. Where anyone has mastered the facts of any branch of knowledge we expect him to be dogmatic, except in religion! If ever I am to go under the surgeon's knife, I shall want to find a man who knows most about the type of surgery which is involved, and who is completely devoid of any misgivings or hesitation in handling his lethal instruments. I shall want my surgeon to be dogmatic to the last degree. And if I am given one of those spinal shots which leave one wide awake to see the ghostly company surrounding the operating table, I hope I shall be spared any round-table discussion about the procedure. When life is at stake, we want thoroughly informed and confident counsel. Yet, when the very life of the soul itself is at stake, with what strange perversity do we Protestants decry the note of certitude! In no other realm of knowledge do we exalt the man who says, "Of course, I would not be dogmatic about it." It is only in the field of religion that we have come to exalt the mood of tolerance above all other intellectual virtues. We American Protestants are the victims today of a passion for religious tolerance which allows no conviction to stand in the way of its determination to sweep everybody into one cheerful company, whose sole loyalty is to one conviction alone—tolerance of everything! Lacking a first-hand experience of Christ and His saving grace, multitudes of our church people are finding a spurious religious glow in movements which promise to bring in the millennium by uniting all religious-minded people into one group by means of some magic formula which places fellowship above conviction.

—Walter Barlow in GOD SO LOVED (Revell)

We cannot spell Sunday without U; we cannot spell church without U; we cannot spell success without U; our church needs U to help. We are counting on U!

"The place to stop crime is not in the electric chair but in the high chair."

#### NOTICE

Registration for the winter semester of Lee College is January 24, 25, 1955. For a free catalog of information and application blanks, write: Rev. R. Leonard Carroll, President, Lee College, Cleveland, Tennessee.

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## Church of God Evangel

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#### DECLARATION OF FAITH

##### WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.
2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.
4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.
5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.
6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.
7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.
8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.
9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.
10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.
12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saint's feet.
13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years.
14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

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The homes of today are making  
the destinies of tomorrow—yet, there  
are three types of

# Christian Homes

By MRS. L. E. HOLDMAN  
Carthage, Missouri

WE OFTEN HEAR the statement "It takes all kinds of people to make a world." From our observation, we sometimes feel the saying has been misquoted. Perhaps it should have been "It takes all kinds of people to make a church." Laying aside the known fact that there is one rule to go by, I want to discuss at least three types of Christian homes. When the article is finished, it is up to each of us to decide in which category his home should be placed and whether it is truly Christian or not.

## THE FIRST TYPE

*Revelation 3:15, 16, "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot; I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth."*

It is commonly known that Hebrews 10:25 teaches us not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together. The obeying of this scripture is a good thing, but the scripture does not tell us that by this obedience alone we and our households will be saved. I have noticed from being in different homes that there are some families that are at church practically every service, rain or shine. Of course, this is to be highly commended. It is as it should be. But I have noticed also that sometimes these same families do not seem to think about the Lord until the next service. There are mottoes on the wall, wonderful, inspiring thoughts; such as, "Christ is the Head of this house," "I will not do anything I would not want to be doing when Jesus comes." They say grace before each meal. All in all, they are typical, steady-plugging American families. Each church is blessed with them. Although dependable and loyal at church, moral and honest in business, thoughtful and gracious at home, they think that the work of the Lord is for the house of God alone. Now, I grant you that a child reared in a home of this sort will likely be a fine, dependable person when he grows to manhood. The average person, perhaps, would say, "Fortunate, indeed, is the boy or girl who is brought up in a home of this type." After seeing the slipshod manner in which some of our American homes are run, I would quickly voice a hearty "amen," but sometimes I



wonder if God is not more exacting than we are. A pastor will thank God for a family such as this. The juvenile authorities will praise such a family. Those in our governmental positions would possibly call them the red-blooded Americans who make our country the strong bulwark that it is today. But, my friend, I wonder what God, the Supreme One, might call us if we neglect that greatest of all things, "spirituality," not what some might term spirituality, but the deep, true things that are our God-given privilege to instill in the hearts of our children.

Paul wrote to Timothy of the unfeigned faith that was first in Grandmother Lois, then, was handed so gracefully by her to her daughter Eunice, who in turn, imparted this same spiritual faith to her son Timothy. I'm sure this wasn't handed to him all packaged and postage paid while he was in the house of God, instead, this took a daily expounding of the Word of God to him. It was their daily, consistent living that kept this faith alive, even to the third generation. Thanks be unto God for families such as this, but let us purpose to accomplish more in our homes than we could ever hope to accomplish at church.

## THE SECOND TYPE

*2 Timothy 1:14, "That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us."*

I BELIEVE THAT through the study of this second type home we shall all agree that the better half of our homes in Pentecost today could be placed in this category. This is the family who is easily stirred by the reading of the Word. These are the ones whom the power and the presence of God in a service can set on fire. They can readily be inspired to accomplish great things for Him. Fortunate is the child born into a home with thoughts such as these. This was the spirit that caused Henry Martyn to cry, "Let me burn out for God!" Such zeal as this caused John Knox to groan, "Give me Scotland or I die." It was this kind of feeling that caused Moses to beg, "Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sins, and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written."

Blessed is the mother or father who can witness feelings such as these. But, there is a sad off-key note that creeps uninvited into this song of praise of a Christian home. James 1:23, 24, "For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For, he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was."

It would have done the Indians no good if after Henry

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*In the quest for earthly position  
and security, man must not forget*

## *Eternal Habitations*

*Psalm 15:1, "Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle?  
who shall dwell in thy holy hill?"*

HERE IS QUOTED the question of the ages, "Who will make heaven their home? Who will be the recipient of God's eternal blessings?" Thank God, the Psalmist has written scripture in terms of human experience. Thank God, the Psalmist didn't stop with the question "Who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?" Thank God, other gospel writers have proffered this same question and, with the Psalmist, have gone just a little farther and explained who the "WHO" will be.

Answers to this age-long question have been proffered by evolutionists, some branches of science, heathen religions, and various cults. They have expressed their theories, but since spiritual questions require spiritual answers, there is but one place to glean the answer, from the inspired Word of God.

In the remainder of Psalm 15, the Psalmist has given a cross section of that part of humanity that will abide and dwell in the abiding presence of Almighty God. In a comprehensive study of the Word of God, we find that entrance into the presence of God is made through the born-again experience. Peter's second sermon, following his infilling of the Holy Ghost, was marked by the words, "repentance and conversion." A lengthy discussion could be conducted on the values of these words, but we have found them to be true and workable as to our entrance into the presence of God. In John 1:12 the apostle John states, "But as many as received him" (Christ). Other contributors have given their explanations and all agree that there must be a personal decision to serve the Lord.

The Christian's privilege is to demonstrate to the world the true riches of the grace of God. The world demonstrates with models, both animate and inanimate, with the test tube, on the screen, as well as on the avenue of life, which is better known as the voice of experience.

CHRISTIANITY EMBODIES the largest field of social and domestic service, service that we owe to our fellow man. "Go ye into all the world" includes you and me. If we intend to make heaven our home, one thing is for sure, we must square our shoulders, walk uprightly, show the world with something other than a better-than-thou attitude, and let them know by our activities that we have something to be desired. The salesman



By WILLIAM R. COLLINS  
Pastor, Coal Springs, South Dakota

who enters a home or place of business indifferent to his product, sloppy in his personal appearance, and with his head lowered as an intruder does not get too far in the sales world. He knows that the important part of his sales ability is to get people to sign on the dotted line.

The Church could learn a few lessons from the sales world—follow through on conversions, lead converts on into sanctification, the baptism of the Holy Ghost, water baptism, divine healing, and get them to affiliate with the Church. Too many times Christians have been sold on the wrong opinions and sales approach. Humbleness has been listed as a condition of dress rather than a condition of the heart manifested by squared shoulders, honest dealings, and a meek and quiet spirit. Spirituality isn't measured by the loudness of the shout, the ferventness of the mode of worship, the mode of dress but in the way we conduct ourselves in the home, in the church, and in our business relations with God and man. Our attitudes toward God and mankind will determine many times whether we are living in defeat or VICTORY.

Not many months ago a minister of another church said that "*The Four-H Club and the Boy Scouts are doing more than the Church.*" What are we doing for the Lord? Is it said of us "having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof"? Spirit-filled churches have been on the move as a whole, with material gains, missionary gains, membership gains, but what are we doing individually? The question was asked "Who shall abide in thy tabernacle?" Since the cause of missions is paramount in the ministry of our Lord, we ask the question "What are we individually doing toward the mission cause? Has it been just meeting our quota, as outlined by our pastor or mission board? Has it been donations of used, worthless clothing, or has it been serviceable, cleanly pressed and mended clothing, perhaps given with a sacrifice as unto the Lord? What have we done toward sponsoring a home mission work in some unevangelized locality? Someone has said we have no right to hear the gospel twice until everyone else has heard it once. We either fossilize or evangelize.

Which will it be—personal holiness or personal egotism? Heaven is our goal. The works of the flesh assert themselves in personal egotism, backbiting, grudges, envy, strife, and the like even unto selfishness. Although personal holiness, the springboard toward heaven, abhor

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# The Workman's Ax

*Churchmen should beware lest the sham and hypocrisy of John the Baptist's day be found among us today.*

By C. M. ANDERSON

IN THE DAYS just before Jesus Christ made His appearance on earth, there came one, John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness a gospel of repentance and water baptism, saying, "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand," Matthew 3:2. He was a great teacher. Luke 1:15 bears out that he was filled with the Holy Ghost from his mother's womb. This Holy Ghost of God was burning in John's soul, and it gave him power and boldness to press on in the spirit. Testifying and prophesying to the coming of Christ, he gave some of the greatest teachings in the Bible.

It wasn't long before this great teacher was the center of attraction and the topic of every conversation. Everyone was talking about this new doctrine that John was teaching. On this day that I shall mention, it seems as if he had a great number of candidates for baptism. "Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judea, and all the region round about Jordan, And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins," Matthew 3:5, 6. There must have been a great number to be baptized who had given their hearts to God, repented, cleaned up their lives, and proved themselves fit to be baptized.

I can see John in his camel's hair raiment and leathern girdle as he baptizes man after man until he has baptized hundreds in the muddy Jordan. He has a tired look upon his face. Fatigued after long hours of labor (this is an especially hard day for him), he is about finished and ready to leave the water when I see him look up. Before him stands a large congregation of people that were well known to him—the Pharisees and Sadducees. I can imagine that after hearing about John's teaching and seeing all the people turning out for this great event, they took counsel and decided to go and see what it was all about, see what it was like. After seeing what was going on, it looked so easy, they decided they would try it for themselves. Can you imagine anyone today who would turn out with such an attitude as this? Yes, many persons today, trying to have salvation without cleaning up their filthy, dirty, ungodly lives, are not willing to pay the price and bear the reproach. Friends, salvation will not mix with the worldly formality that the enemy is so easily slipping into our great Pentecostal ranks today.

THESE PEOPLE are still going on in a form, and John knows them so well. I suppose his righteous in-

dignation rises in him and the great Holy Ghost gives him this message "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance." Matthew 3:7, 8. O my God, how we need some repentance with fruits as proof today. John doesn't puppy down when the big men of the town appear with this mob of self-righteous, high-minded, pleasure-seeking, flesh-satisfying, money-loving crowd of big shots. No, he doesn't run; he stands his ground, for he knows he has God on his side. He speaks without fear or favor. Now after he has cut them to the core with these words, he continues his teaching. In Matthew 3:10 we find these words, "And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire." In Matthew 7:19 Jesus says "Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire." These are the very same words that John spoke in the latter part of Matthew 3:10.

A great subject this is, praise God. He did not say that the tree must bring forth bad fruit to be cut down, but He said brings not forth good fruit. Standing head and shoulders above all others, the tree could be the most beautiful in the orchard with the most perfect body, longest branches, and have the prettiest and greenest leaves, but without good fruit, it would be no good.

I see this beautiful tree with its branches reaching toward heaven, its big green leaves dancing in the breeze, the birds of the air fluttering in and out enjoying the nice cool shade this tree affords them, and I see man and beast as they rest in the shade of this great tree, enjoying the pleasure this tree can afford. But, remember, friends, this great tree has no fruit, and all the men and beast and birds that come to this tree and take pleasure in it and its great shade and are satisfied to spend their time with this fruitless tree will perish with it. This is what John sees. He sees all this before he gives them this message. In this mass of people, John sees the big men of Jerusalem and Judea, whose influence reach far and wide. He knows they have influence over many. Many have been deceived by lingering in their shades and taking counsel in their presence. He knows they are not ready and willing to give up a life of influence and

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## What Television Has Done For Our Home

By a Christian Mother

**W**E USUALLY JUDGE the value of material things by asking ourselves the question "What does this do for me?" If we buy a new outfit of clothes, a car, or a home, we usually find that it does something for us. There is a certain exhilaration that comes with these things. Of course, we don't break it down into the whys, hows, and causes. It's just human nature that it does something for us. There's a new spring to our step. We don't know why, but it's there, and it's good. Also, it seems to me that practically every material thing that commands our inward thoughts affects our spiritual lives in some way. Either it is a force for good or vice versa. If anything has been a blessing to us, it is only natural that we should tell others about it, and we should be just as quick to warn others when something brings danger and pitfalls into our spiritual lives. This article is not to tell you that television is either. It is not written to say to you that the invention of television is one of the greatest blessings that has come to our modern-day world, neither to tell you that it is one of its most evil inventions. It is not written to tell you that it is a sin to have one in your home, but as the title of this article suggests, I want to tell you only what it did for our home. You may be the judge whether it has done the same for yours. Also, you will be the judge as to whether they are right or wrong.

Several months ago, like many other Christian families, the little seed of desire for a television was planted in our hearts. No, I didn't do too much analyzing; it seemed to be just the thing. Other Christians had them, even some of our ministers. They were educational (we were told). They had a knob so that a program that wasn't acceptable could easily be turned off. The gentle whispers of my heart were eventually quieted by finding out that radio

had met the same opposition by our beloved Christian elders but only for a little while, for they soon saw that they were very essential. Television, of course, would be likewise. They were here to stay; we might as well accept them. So, I accepted this reluctantly, I'll admit, but, was the only natural thing to do. Well, to make a long story short, I liked it. I liked what it did for the room it was in. It enhanced it, and I was proud. I liked the excitement and action that came with it, so we settled down to some highly entertaining evenings. It was quite cozy. First one and then another of us would fry the hamburgers, pop the corn, and open the soft drinks we were careful to store in the icebox beforehand. All in all, we decided it was a homey way to spend our evenings.

Perhaps, before I go any further, I ought to explain who "we" is. I'm a housewife (common variety). I have a wonderful husband, a great big, clumsy, kind, and lovable man. We have some lovely boys and girls. You might be interested in knowing that my husband and I have been Christians for about twenty years. Since my children are all Christians, too, we have some wonderful times together. Lately I have been taking inventory of our lives; I do that quite often. Somehow I feel responsible for the lives my children live. As I was doing a little checking, I began thinking about this matter of values. I especially thought about our television and its value to us. I reached for a pencil and paper to jot down the results. This is what I pass on to you.

1. We used to all gather around the piano quite frequently and sing hymns. Of course, with the advent of television in our home, our evenings were all taken.

2. We always got a thrill from outings with our children whether picnics on the creek banks or just games in the park. We now found it much less trouble to find a comfortable seat in our living room with a tasty snack on our coffee table.

3. We were also a book-loving family. We loved good literature and always kept plenty on hand. With television there wasn't much time for our favorite book or magazine.

4. My children who never wanted to miss church service began to occasionally find an excuse to stay at home. I began to wonder if this was in any way associated with the television. I hoped against hope that it was only because they were getting a little older and possibly a little indifferent to their Christian experience. I began to pray with much faith that they would draw closer to the Lord and would never stray from their teachings.

5. Hearing quite frequently the saying "The home that prays together, stays together" caused me to be a stickler for family devotions. After two or three hours of television, we still had our devotion, or at least a prayer. Most generally, young Johnny was asleep, and the rest of our minds couldn't believe very well in their befuddled state.

I probably could have written on and on of these television values, but I didn't have time. I went to the telephone and dialed the local newspaper advertisement department: FOR SALE: One good used television, cheap.

Maybe someone will buy it who hasn't enjoyed much family life and this might help to keep the family at home.

Editorial Note: The EVANGEL takes no position for or against television, neither does the Church of God. Its beneficial or detrimental use is left to the conscience of the owner. Nevertheless, the editor is of the opinion that this is one of the most incisive articles he has ever read concerning Christians and TV. The EVANGEL trusts that it will help all television owners to view their attitude and situation in a better perspective.



*A Methodist preacher speaks  
out on a subject of vital importance*

# *The Church Has Missed the Source of Its Power*

By  
BOB  
SHULER

S AID A LONDON preacher recently: "There would have been no Nazism, no Fascism, no Communism if only the Christian Church had remained true to its mission." The fact is, the Church missed the meaning of its mission and its commission. It has failed to understand the truth upon which it is effective.

We can lay the plight of the world at the door of the Christian Church, because the Church deserted its supernatural mandate, supernatural promise, supernatural purpose, and supernatural power. The Church was never meant to be a natural organization.

For that very reason, the salt has lost its savor. If we organize the Church upon a human level, it is through. It may remain in architecture, in form and ceremony, in ecclesiasticism, in pious platitudes, and even in doctrine and orthodox pronouncements, but the Church cannot remain as a living, revolutionary entity. The reason is that it has deserted its source.

## *Pentecost Produced Peter*

We may as well expect a river to flow on when all the fountains are dry. Pentecost was not man's doings. There was nothing in Peter, in his preparation, in his personality, in his education, in his eloquence, in his understanding of the situation, in his organization, or in his ecclesiastical position that produced Pentecost or the results that attended. The fact is that Pentecost produced Peter.

Pentecost produced the spectacular and humanly unbelievable things that followed. Pentecost was upon a supernatural level. Pentecost was the Holy Ghost in action. The disciples went forth after Pentecost to do what all the humanly contrived organizations on earth had never done and could never do. Suddenly the world began to be "turned upside down." It was Pentecost.

Today the Christian Church has all but forgotten Pentecost in its haste to organize, educate, promote, revolutionize, and otherwise take over the rebuilding of a world that has undoubtedly reached bottom. Our great leaders are proceeding upon a mammoth undertaking, that of making one Church into a mighty leverage for the lifting of one world out of its chaos and despair. All we have to do to understand how miserably it has failed and how miserably it is failing is to look about us and see what has happened within the past half century, how near destruction the world has come and is at this moment, and

how powerless and helpless the Christian Church has become. The Bible speaks of the condition of the salt that has lost its savor. "It is thenceforth good for nothing," says the Book.

## *Rich and Increased in Goods*

I AM NOT SAYING that the Christian Church is not advancing. It is advancing. It has the best church buildings and equipment in the history of mankind. It is better organized than ever before. It has printing presses, publishing houses, libraries, and universities and colleges without comparison.

It has the best trained leadership since the days of Christ. It is rich and increased in goods and lacks nothing. As the world judges success, it is a tremendous success. Methodism alone has ten million members. It is advancing, achieving, winning. What more could the Church ask?

But the cold, harsh summing up of history pronounces the Christian Church a failure. There is a "little flock" to whom Christ has promised the "kingdom," and that little despised minority is working miracles in the strength and power of that same Pentecost from which the early Church went forth to conquer. The Church itself is so busy remaking a world that has collapsed within its very hands that its efforts appear tragic.

Its world has lost all steadying elements of moral character. Men no longer trust the word of one another. World leaders are looked upon as low liars. Thievery is everywhere. The world's most popular characters are confessed to be harlots and libertines. Everything that makes for Christianity has slipped. Even Christian leaders are abetting atheist plotters. Such is the world that is being produced by the influence of the Christian Church on the human level.

The Church has decided upon human channels, the use of human power and reconstruction of human direction. It has entered the field of economics, industry, government, human relations, and world betterment. Its tools are human tools; its implementation is the same; and its source of power is the human dynamo about it.

The sorry result is that the Church has been pulled down to the level of the world rather than the lifting of mankind to divine levels.

All this tragic plight of the Christian Church is but the

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An arousing message to

# Christians —

IN OUR LORD'S MESSAGE to the church at Laodicea, He inferred the possibility of three types of believers; namely, hot, cold, or lukewarm. In this message, I shall refer to them as spiritual, carnal, and apostate. Our Lord's message to this church is recorded in Revelation 3:14-19. Permit me to direct your thoughts primarily to verses 15, 16, which read, "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth."

This modern day of civilization, culture, and increased learning has produced an element of religious professors who, consciously or unconsciously, have little, if any, knowledge of the experiences enjoyed by Christians in the early Church. The name "Christian" has been applied to all who make any pretense at giving mental assent to the gospel of Christ. Even the multitudes who have denied the miraculous conception of Christ and the atoning qualities of His shed blood continue to profess Christianity. At the inception of the Christian Church, it was not so. Believers were called Christians because of their likeness to Christ and their readiness to submit humbly to His will in all things.

The believers at Laodicea possessed certain enviable characteristics in their church, but, when these qualifications were measured by God's rule and weighed on His scale, they were strangely lacking. They were depending largely upon their material goods and human accomplishments. They worshiped in beautiful edifices, possessed an abundance of natural ability, and sought to impress others with their riches. They clothed themselves with religious pride, culture, and a form of godliness. Their righteousness consisted of the dead works of men. In no uncertain terms, our Lord rebuked them for their blindness, nakedness, poverty, and misery. He counseled them to secure the true riches, which consist of His righteousness, His power, His purity, and the spiritual perception which He alone can impart to the seeking soul.

TODAY, AS IN DAYS gone by, it is vitally essential to our spiritual wellbeing to accept by faith and to act upon the promises, righteousness, and will of our God and Saviour. He is a God of love and justice, and He knows believers for what they are whether good, bad, or indifferent.

Believers in the early Church were considered spiritual when they had reached a position of maturity in Christ.



*Good — Bad — Indifferent  
Hot — Cold — Lukewarm  
Spiritual — Carnal — Apostate*

*Regardless of the  
names by which we know  
them — there are three  
classes of people who go  
under the name "Christian."*

*It is the duty of all  
who bear  
the name to honor it by  
being Christ-like in  
word, thought and action.*



# Good, Bad, and Indifferent

By JAMES B. REESOR  
Evangelist

It is highly probable that many of them arrived at a place of spiritual maturity much earlier in their Christian life than did others. Because of heredity, environment, or other complexities of life, some may reach a state of maturity after much processing and many hard trials. The greatest lessons of life are often learned during periods of fiery trials and unaccountable hardships. Suffice it to say, God's ways are always best.

In the early Church this maturity exhibited itself in an unfeigned love for the brethren, genuine unity in Christ, which resulted in gracious demonstrations of divine power and an evangelistic fervor which could not be quenched by the fires and floods of persecution. It is to be expected that, not only then, but also in this present age, spiritual maturity seeks expression in similar ways. In Acts 2 we read of the phenomenal experience received by the believers assembled in the upper room when the Holy Ghost was poured out upon the unified group. The result following this initial outpouring, thousands being converted, was miraculous, also. Again, in the fifth chapter of Acts, we have a record of miracles accomplished in their midst, as the believers were banded in one accord. When Ananias and Sapphira would have disrupted this sacred unity, by lying to Peter and the Holy Ghost because of a spirit of covetousness which had taken possession of them, God sent immediate judgment, and these two apostates were cut off in their sin. The continuation of this condition of divine unity in the early Church made possible the launching of the first missionary program of the New Testament Church. Under the guidance of the Holy Ghost, apostles and believers went everywhere preaching Christ, and signs followed. Within one generation, the greater part of the then-known world was evangelized.

CHRIST PRAYED for the unity of His Church, and His prayer is to be and is being answered. The fulfillment of His inspiring prayer is not to be accomplished in minority groups only or by cold, rigid rule, but through the power of the Word, the blood of Christ, and the Holy Spirit working in and through consecrated Christian believers everywhere.

Paul the apostle had the utmost confidence in the fulfillment of Christ's prayer when he penned these words to the believers at Ephesus, "And he gave some, apostles and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the

faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ," Ephesians 4:11-13.

Spiritual believers are channels through which the divine love of God may flow for the purpose of encouraging, blessing, and edifying others. Christians who personify the principles of charity or love, as set forth in 1 Corinthians 13, will be recognized by God and man, as being spiritual. Gifts of the Spirit can function and operate to the glory of God and for the benefit of men only when they are working through lives that are Spirit-possessed and overflowing with God's love. Those who are spiritual have entered into a state of faith and a sphere of usefulness of which carnal believers know nothing.

Carnal or indifferent believers have accepted Christ as their Saviour, and they are branches of the Vine, but are living in a precarious position. "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace," Romans 8:6. According to our Lord's words as recorded in John 15:1-8, it is possible to abide in Christ for a time and fail to produce fruit. The fruit of a Christian is more Christians. All Christians are expected to be humbly engaged in the work of winning souls to Christ. Our labors may often appear to be in vain, but faithful, zealous, consecrated determined effort to win souls to Christ is never lost effort.

Believers who are indifferent to the needs of lost men and women, contented to abide in Christ without producing fruit are in danger of being cut off and of losing their own souls. "Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit," John 15:2. In verse 6 He tells us of the consequences and the destruction of dead branches. Our Lord said, "So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth." It has been said that "The indifference of believers is more detrimental than the zeal of the wicked."

According to scriptural references, carnality expresses itself in various ways. Some have developed an unusual and childish preference for certain ministers of the gospel (1 Corinthians 3:1-4), and this worship of men has erected barriers to their own spiritual development. Every minister of the gospel, as a servant of God, is obligated to preach Christ and to live Christ. Christ alone can save; His power alone can heal; and He alone is able to bring deliverance to all who are oppressed of the devil.

(Continued on page 12)

### THREE TYPES OF CHRISTIAN HOMES

(Continued from page 3)

Martyn had cried, "Let me burn out for God," he refused to do so. Scotland would have gone without a great revival if John Knox had halfheartedly cried, "I'll die, Lord, if you don't give me souls." He meant every word of it. Israel would have been slain, each by the hand of his brother, if Moses had not loved these people better than he loved himself. Reading of such sacrifices makes it all the more sad to observe that the most of our high and lofty ambitions fade before someone is blessed by them. We hate to admit (even to ourselves) that the fire that is kindled so easily can smolder so quickly. Sadder still is the fact that we sometimes let these fires die even after we have inspired the souls of our children. Then, sorry to say, "Like father, like son." The flame eventually dies out of their hearts. Woe is Christianity when the fire dies out of the hearts of our youth.

I have recently heard it stated that America cannot rise higher than her youth. This sounds logical, but it is an almost certainty that the youth cannot rise higher than their parents. A child will seldom rise higher spiritually than the one responsible for his rearing. In my contacts as a minister's wife, I have noticed that there are some who can have the fires of their hearts fanned to an all-time high when God's power touches their souls, then they seemingly forget it as soon as the service is over. I have seen some of these same people become careless with their own children's souls when they get home. I have actually heard this hair-raising statement made to an erring child by its parent "That's all right; go on and go to hell if you want to. I won't shed one tear over you. I'll be in heaven where God said there would be no tears, and I'll be happy just the same." Can we rightly call ourselves Christians (meaning Christlike) when we so easily forget His ways? He looked over that great city and cried in anguish, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not!" I am reminded at this point that Jesus cried over those who refused to listen. Sometimes we refuse to cry over those who are dearest to us who would be glad to listen if they knew we were concerned.

I once made the statement "My knees turn to water in a mission service," which, figuratively speaking, is true. I tremble as though a chill had suddenly struck me. Just singing one verse, even in my home, of "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go" sends my thoughts and aspirations to the darkest corner of India or Africa. No, I've never had a calling to any of these places, but I still have the feeling I must do something. Lord, I must stay busy for you. These dreams will do my children no good; they will never make a better minister of my husband if I don't confine a few of these aspirations to my own home. And, if I don't, I have failed in that God-given trust of motherhood.

Let us not receive that good thing which is true and godly and which, according to the above scripture, can be kept by the Holy Ghost only to let it slip from our grasp.

God's love is not spasmodic, but unceasing; may our own be likewise.

#### THE THIRD TYPE

*Psalm 1:1-3, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his*

*delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."*

NOTICE "and in his law doth he meditate day and night." Then comes that indestructible promise "he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." The condition is there, and if met, the promise is certain to follow.

Yes, this third type of home is thought by some to be old-fashioned, but the home that meditates on God's law day and night is far from being old-fashioned. Then there are others who think this type of home obsolete. That, too, is far from being right. Just among our scope of friends we are reminded of godly, stable parents whose children are bringing right into our midst what we have so often termed "The church of tomorrow." Almost before we have realized it, our little snaggle-toothed boys and pigtailed girls of yesterday are today's sturdy, stalwart evangelists, pastors, teachers, and missionaries. The zeal is burning in their beings even as it burned in the souls of their parents. The little snaggle-toothed Joe has grown up only to realize that Jane no longer wears pig-tails and that she has the same call of God upon her life. A beautiful courtship follows; the ceremony is said; their lives are merged; and, lo, another lovely Christian home is begun. They, with their youth and zeal, will fulfill that dream that Mother had of activities in faraway places. They, with their education and deeper understanding of God's Word, will fill the place that Dad's vision reached but could not attain because of a limited education or limited funds of a mission treasury. But since Dad has meditated on the laws of the Lord before his son, the season has arrived, yes, the blessed time of bringing forth an abundance of fruit has come about through Joe. He is the boy of yesteryear who saw Dad's secret longings and his burning zeal.

Let us not say to ourselves or to others, "It cannot be done; the day we are living in, etc." We might fool ourselves into saying, "These are perilous times; we shall be doing well if we just hold our own." You may be doing well, but rest assured that while you are holding your own there are others who have lately looked upon the fields and realized they are white already to harvest. They have met the challenge; they have accepted it; they are our boys and girls of yesterday who heard the groans and who saw the tears of their godly, Christlike parents. They, in turn, will utter groans and weep salty tears over the lost and dying to be rewarded should Jesus tarry, along with the blessed godly children who will carry the torch high, also.

This is a day of golden opportunities. Let us take advantage of them by making our homes truly Christian.



#### ETERNAL HABITATIONS

(Continued from page 4)

and condemns all forms of sin, works of the flesh, it genders a sweet, happy, joyful disposition, and expression of the soul.

"Who shall abide in thy tabernacle?" In conclusion we answer—those who have been born again, those who

have squared their lives to the gospel, those who have caught the vision of "Go ye into all the world," those who are missionaries in word and deed, and above all, those who have made a growth in grace and personal holiness or lives lived in the presence of God.



### THE WORKMAN'S AX

(Continued from page 5)

power to humble themselves to God. He knows they are not ready to clean up their lives. He knows they are trying to put on a front for selfish gain. The Holy Ghost gave this to John and he cries out that the axe is laid to the roots of all the trees and that he that doesn't bring good fruit is going to be cut down and cast into the fire.

I can see these men (that John refer to as trees) as they turn and make their way back to their homes and jobs and businesses; some go sorrowfully because the price is too great. They just cannot give up their old ways—they prefer to sit in the influence of some great man rather than accept this simple and humble, but sure, way of salvation. Not willing to put their trust in God and ask Him to give power to overcome evil, others go away with an unconcerned attitude as if to say, "I don't want any part of your teaching; anyway, it's too straight for me. I could never give up this or that."

WE HAVE many such trees in our orchards today. They are men who at one time seemed to be good trees that would bring forth bountiful crops of good fruit, but before harvest time, they looked upon and took on so much of the world, so much pride, so much riches, and so much formality that before this fruit could mature it became rotten at the heart. They have forgotten God. They go to God's house to worship God, then go back home and take on the world and forget the One who loads them daily with benefits. Many Christians today have a testimony of big words well placed and a smooth speech that sounds good to the average person, but their lives sound so much louder than their testimony that you can't hear a word they say. "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them," Matthew 7:20. Oh, yes, he may be tall, good looking, well mannered, educated, hold a high place in authority, sing in the choir, sit in the amen corner, drive a fine car, and live in a fine home; oh, yes, he may be a fine fellow, but listen, friends, unless he is bringing forth good fruit, his influence is not fit with which to take counsel, for he is a good apple rotten at the heart. David said, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly," Psalm 1:1. Brother, let's watch with whom we counsel. Let's pick a tree which we know bears good fruit, sit in its shade, even though it might not be the prettiest or the tallest in the orchard, but if the fruit is there, we shall find a sweet fellowship that the unfruitful tree cannot impart. This one will stand and bear fruit on and on while the fruitless one will lift its fruitless cries in the fire, hopeless and helpless, lost forever.

LET'S CONTINUE with David in Psalm 1:1, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful." Beloved, today we don't have to go very far to find such counsel, and if we don't watch ourselves and be very careful, we shall be in the midst of it before we realize in what we are taking part.

Almost every day we see people who, saved one time by the grace of God, are still walking hand in hand with the worldly people, associating and spending precious time with those who will not accept God, who will not turn from their wicked, unclean ways, and they are taking counsel with them and their ways. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you," 2 Corinthians 6:17.

The great God of all the universe wants a people who will separate themselves from the wicked, unclean things of the world and who will humble themselves and worship Him in spirit and truth. He wants a people who are willing to clean up their lives and their homes and put God first at home and abroad; He wants a people who will take counsel in His blessed Word of truth. God wants a people who had rather go to Church than to watch television; He wants a people who had rather read His Word than true story or comic books; He wants a people who had rather have prayer meeting in their homes than brush parties or bingo games; God wants a people who will throw the television sets, the comic books, and true story magazines out of their homes, say "no" to Satan, stock their homes with Bible and good, wholesome Christian literature, and teach their children to have respect for God and their fellow man. Brethren, these children are a blessing from God the Father, and don't you forget they are your responsibility. It is up to you to see after your children's spiritual needs. Are you going to take every precaution to keep their little minds clean, or are you going to give way to Satan and let him contaminate their minds with the modern, useless, ungodly, unholy things of today. O my God, Satan is seeing to it that these things get into Pentecostal homes, and I suppose the old family altar has about faded away, along with the Bible reading together with the children. Let me say, "Blessed is he that refuses to take counsel with the ungodly and the sinner." God expects us to clean our homes as well as our hearts. Then He will feel welcome to come and abide with us. Let's invite Jesus into our homes; let's have a house cleaning; let's move out everything that is unspiritual, unclean, and ungodly and let the Master rule our homes and lives. Then and only then, will we see a tree with good fruit and a shade that is worthy in which to take counsel. If we take counsel in such a tree, along with God's Holy Word, we shall have no fear of the workman's axe of which John was speaking. God wants a holy people; a people who have separated themselves from the world and refuse to turn back to Egypt.



### THE CHURCH HAS MISSED THE SOURCE OF ITS POWER

(Continued from page 7)

result of the abandonment of its supernatural character. Its failure stems from its folly.

Christ sent His disciples to Pentecost for power that would cause the Roman Empire to tremble.

A strange thing followed Pentecost. Men who had been but humble toilers, fishermen, and had been despised among their fellows suddenly became invincible. They had no education, no worldly preparation for their task, no personal qualification that stood out, and yet they literally "turned the world upside down."

Kings trembled before them. Why was there a Hitler?



The answer is that there were no Pentecost-filled men to prevent. Why a Mussolini? No Peter! Why a Stalin? No St. Paul! Why a world all tangled and wrecked and leaping towards chaos? The answer is certain—the Christian Church has lost its Pentecost.

#### *Going Down to Egypt for Help*

**WE ARE DEPENDING** upon horses and chariots, upon science and scholarship, upon atomic bombs and cold-war strategy, and upon the wisdom of men. We are frantically organizing the West against the East. We are rushing hither and thither to contain Communism. We are resorting to strikes and are fomenting revolution. We are holding investigations. Many are defying the government under which they live.

It is all a madhouse process of man's devising, and the Church of God has stooped to its level. We who were sent to the upper room for our supplies and have been promised the resources of the eternal God, now join the mad rush to hold back the forces of hell by sand-bagging manipulations. The floods are coming. The dikes are breaking. The land is being inundated while the Church of Jesus Christ shovels sand!

The world is falling because the Church has failed!

—The Methodist Challenge



#### **CHRISTIANS—GOOD, BAD, AND INDIFFERENT**

(Continued from page 9)

It is, however, important that all believers recognize God's servants because of their position in Christ and the call of God upon their lives. He who would seek to develop his own ministry and increase his own personal prestige by seeking to discredit the work of another is waging a losing battle against a fellow member. "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body," 1 Corinthians 12:13a.

Carnality manifests itself by yielding to fleshly lusts and appetites. Until believers accept their co-crucifixion with Christ, there will be a constant warfare between the flesh and the Spirit. This warfare must of necessity result in the death of the fleshly life or the spiritual life. In Romans 6:11 Paul declared to the church at Rome, "Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord." Sin is not confined to outward demonstrations

only. It is possible for sin to exist and to control even the thoughts of the mind and the heart. God's power is sufficient to cleanse from all sin. Victorious Christians have accepted the fact of their deliverance from all sin and death to it; therefore, they are pressing forward in a living, triumphant faith. Desiring victory but failing to accept it through Christ, carnal believers continue to wage a useless, hopeless battle in themselves. Those who are determined to win the battle will eventually succeed through faith and perseverance. Those who succumb to carnal desires will die spiritually.

The cold believer, bad Christian, apostate professor of religion, has at one time or another experienced some degree of spiritual awakening. Sown on rocky soil, perhaps the seed sprang up for only a short time. It could be that the cares of life and love of the world crept in and crowded out the spark of divine life that had blazed momentarily. In any event, God knows where the apostate is. Men know, also, because his fruits betray him. He is a dead branch, cut off and prepared for the burning. Never again can he be restored, nor will he ever, at any time desire restoration. He is given over to a reprobate mind and is eternally doomed because of wilful, premeditated disobedience to the known call and will of God. Christ referred to him as the impatient servant who rebelled against his lord's will (Luke 12:45, 46). As a result, he was cast out with unbelievers. Peter compared these unproductive and apostate believers to dogs, returning to their own vomit, and to hogs that were washed to their wallowing in the mire (2 Peter 2:22). Paul also warned that those who defile the temple of God shall be destroyed (1 Corinthians 3:17).

Believers living today in the midst of spiritual, political, and social confusion are confronted with numerous opportunities to reveal Christ to a lost world. The equipment of the Laodicean Church proved to be hopelessly inadequate for the purpose. Today, as then, spiritual leaders and Christian people must depend upon the divine enablements of God to bring deliverance to humanity. They fasted and prayed in the early Church, constantly desiring and seeking the guidance of the Holy Ghost. Their accomplishments, in the name of Jesus, were phenomenal and miraculous. The God we serve has never changed. He is declaring to the Church today, "I would thou wert cold or hot."

#### **JAMAICA OPENS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY**

The Church of God recently opened its School of Theology in the island of Jamaica with the Reverend L. E. Barrett as the principal. It is believed that there will be a fine school again this year. The courses taught in this school are:

Theology—The Church and Last Things  
A Study of the Nature of Rural and City Churches  
An Introduction to the Old Testament  
Church History—The Reformation  
Christian Education  
Principles of Psychology  
Music—Sight-singing and Conducting

There is a need in this school for a better library, so if anyone has books that he would like to donate they would be greatly appreciated. Send all books to the Reverend A. W. Brum-

mett, 671 N.E. First Place, Hialeah, Florida. Brother Brummett, our Superintendent of the West Indies, will see that these books are sent to Jamaica for the library.

So many people ask me every day, "What does Christianity mean?" This is the way I would give the meaning:  
In the Home—Kindness.  
In Business—Honesty.  
In Society—Courtesy.  
In Work—Thoroughness.  
In Play—Fairness.  
To the Unfortunate—Pity.  
To Sin—Resistance.  
To the Strong—Trust and Good Will.  
To the Weak—Help.  
To the Penitent—Forgiveness.  
To all Men—Reverence and Love.  
To God—Worship and Service.

#### **Love**

Riches take wings, comforts vanish, hopes wither away, but love stays with

us. God is love.

#### **Truth**

Sin has many tools, but a lie is the handle that fits them all.

—Ethel Corey, Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Brother Conn:

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our Church of God in Costa Rica is in great need. Our children of the Sunday School do not have anything to wear, and many of the poor people do not have a bed in which to sleep.

Our church is located in the poorest part of the city. Today I visited nineteen homes as I used to do. When I came back home at 6:30 p.m., I started writing this letter, hoping it will be published in the **Church of God Evangel** so that we shall receive some help such as used clothing.—Your brother in Christ, Claudio Bermudez, Native Worker.

# COURT of PRAISE

BENTON, Ill.—I was very worried and upset, and my head bothered me until the Lord answered prayer. I had a terrible head cold and I used a home remedy that made me worse. Even after my daughter dropped heated oil into my ear, I kept getting worse. I had a terrible noise in my head. I put the Church of God Evangel and Brother Rouse's book on my ear and promised the Lord I would testify if He would heal me. I praise the Lord because He is my Healer and Keeper. He is everything to me.—Phila Delphia Gant.

LIBERTY GROVE, Md.—I praise the Lord for a wonderful healing that recently took place with me. We had purchased a one-room schoolhouse to be used as a church, and it had several bookcases inside which were of no value to us. One night, while we were cleaning and painting, a brother and I were carrying the old bookcases outside. We had taken one out, and while attempting to place another on top of it, I stumbled and my hand landed against the other cabinet. A rusty ten-penny nail went completely through my index finger, bone and all, and the cabinet was on top. I couldn't move and had to wait for the brother to set his end of the cabinet down before he could lift the cabinet off. I immediately went inside and called them all together to pray. God moved, and I felt no pain. Praise God, He wonderfully healed my finger and every time I look at the tiny scar I thank God for His healing power.—E. D. Gray, Pastor of the Liberty Grove Church of God.

VALDOSTA, Ga.—I thank the Lord for healing my foot. I have had a wart on my foot almost all of my life, and about two months ago, it got infected. My foot began to swell and turn red. It hurt so much that I couldn't rest day or night, and I couldn't wear my shoe at all. Even though I got worried about it, I didn't go to a doctor. I just began to pray and ask God to heal it. That night I slept well, and the next morning the swelling was almost gone. In about two or three days, my foot was completely well, and I could wear my shoe again. To God be all the honor and praise.—Mrs. Vassie Brooks.

WILLACHOOCHEE, Ga.—While visiting an uncle, I was privileged to attend a tent meeting conducted by Brother C. M. Venson. I was under such conviction while Brother Venson was preaching that it seemed I could not live until he gave the altar call. When he did, I went and was gloriously saved. God told me to have my eyes prayed for. When Brother Venson placed his hand on my head in the healing service, I knew I would see the beauty of this world which I had never seen, for I was born color blind. Now, praise God, I can see all the colors which I had never seen before. I know now that there is no

other power as great as God. I thank Him! I went to the forest today, and I saw all the beauties I had never seen before. Praise His holy name!—Edd Vann.

WILLIAMSTOWN, W. Va. — The purpose of this testimony is to show that God still heals through the ministry of the local church. I have had two notable experiences in divine healing. God has healed me of a tumor and has restored my palate. While I was in the Army, I was operated on for a tumor on my head, and the doctor thought that the situation was corrected; however, the tumor came back. On a certain night, I thought that I would go to a nearby healing campaign and ask for prayer. Instead, the Lord led me to go to a small church to work for Him by playing my musical instrument in their service. I felt that this was my duty to serve this small church. That night the Holy Spirit led the pastor to pray for the sick, and I was prayed for and healed completely. About nine months later, I was talking to Sister Lydia Berkey about the condition of my mouth. The scripture, John 9:3, came to me and I felt that I would be healed for the glory of God. I told Sister Berkey that I believed that God could and would restore my palate. She was pastor of this small church, and the Spirit moved her to lay hands on me and pray for me. I talked with her the next morning about what the doctors had said about my palate. She told me that God had already begun to restore it. When she looked in my mouth, a small palate had begun to grow. I am now a student at Lee College, and I came because I felt that God wanted me to study and improve my speech so that I could preach the gospel.—Johnnie Oliver.

MOBILE, Ala. — In September of 1953 I had two serious operations in one. At that time my doctor told me that I had cancer. I was steadily growing weaker, and thirty-five days after the operation the doctor gave me up to die. He said these words to the hospital attendants: "There is nothing more I can do for this man; he is a hopeless case. He has cancer in the fourth stage, and he can't live more than thirty days." About two days later Brother J. A. Ostrander, Brother Bill Stout, and Brother G. H. Etheridge came to the hospital and prayed for me, and the Lord raised me up. I waited fifteen months and then had another examination by another doctor. He told me, "There is no cancer there." I give God all the glory. Praise His holy name!—J. C. Jordan. Attested by J. A. Ostrander, Pastor.

HOMERVILLE, Ga.—I thank and praise God for hearing and answering prayer and for making a way for me and my dear children to go to the Church of God. We can go now and enjoy the blessings of God. The way had looked so dark for me for a long time, but I prayed and held on to God's unchanging hand. I requested prayer, and God has answered it. Also, I want to thank Him for His healing me and my children from time to time. I hope this testimony will be a blessing to someone who is discouraged. Just hold on to God in prayer, and He will answer and supply your every need. I love the Lord, and I want to hear Him say, "Well done, my child." Then I can go to live with Jesus forever and that will be a wonderful time. I am glad I am in God's holy family.—Sister Cook.

BAXLEY, Ga.—I praise the blessed Saviour for what He has done for me and my husband. My husband was in a serious condition when my friends from all the churches in the community prayed for him, and God heard their prayers on November 2, 1954, at 11:30 a.m. I was trying to get my husband to have more faith in God, but that old demon spirit kept him from believing until our pastor came to see him and explained the wonders of healing. He explained every little detail and proved it by the Bible. Jesus came on the scene and healed my husband both soul and body. He is rejoicing in the good Lord and is ready to serve Him.—Gatsy Rentz.

GARDNERS, Pa.—We are praising the Lord for the healing of our son, age six. He would have one boil after another, and the last one he had was on his leg, which got very sore. I had to keep him home from school for two days, and when he would walk, he would cry and say he couldn't walk. We went to our church services at South Fairview, and our pastor, Brother Russel Negley, prayed for him. Our faith was tried for a while, but we praise the Lord that he is healed. We thank the Lord because He is able to do all things if we will only trust Him.—Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth B. Brandt. Attested by Russel S. Negley, Pastor.

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla.—I praise God for healing me of an ulcerated stomach. The doctors told me that I would have to be on a diet as long as I live, but thank the Lord that our God is still on His throne! He heals and answers prayers, and He gives us what we ask Him if we have the faith and trust in His Word. I trusted in His words "By His stripes we are healed." I am eating anything I want, and I am not on a diet. Thank God for His Word! I thank God for answering prayer and healing my body. I expect to serve Him and trust Him forever.—Mrs. Connie Campo.

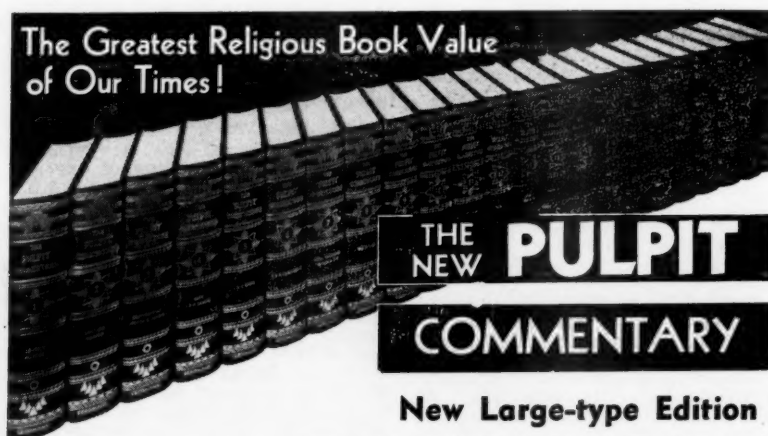
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# religious news



## DULLES DISCUSSES PEACE PROSPECTS

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP) At a press conference recently, Secretary Dulles expressed his views on matters concerning the possibilities of an armed conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union:

**On Preventive War:** Any idea of a preventive war is wholly out of question as far as the United States is concerned. President Eisenhower has made his position in that respect unmistakably clear that any such action would be abhorrent to him. It is not in any sense part or parcel, even remotely, of U.S. foreign policy. I believe what I say in relation to the present Administration would equally be applicable to the past Administration . . . (It) is not and, as far as I can forecast, never will be any part of U.S. foreign policy.

**Soviet War Intentions:** One knows two facts: The first is that there is a vast military power within the Soviet Union and the Communist world; second, we know that by their own doctrine they do not feel inhibited by any moral considerations in doing what they think will serve their best interests. Therefore, we have constantly to be sure that we are creating a situation so that they will feel that their best interests will not be served by a general war. I believe that we are doing that effectively and that probably the result of it is that they calculate that a general war would not serve their best interests at the present time. As long as we continue strong, united, able, and willing to fight if necessary, I think that we have a very substantial deterrent against general war.

## EARLY CHRISTMAS COMMERCIALISM DEcriED

NEWARK, N. J. (EP) A protest against the "ever-earlier secular, commercial emphasis" which makes people "get tired of Christmas before the spiritual celebration takes place," was made by the Newark Church Fellowship, composed of clergy and lay representatives of Protestant churches here. "It is our conviction that the spiritual values in the observance of the Christmas season are increasingly dissipated and diluted with the ever-earlier secular, commercial emphasis," the group said.

"We recognize the necessary commercial aspects in shopping, decorations, and so forth. At the same time, the projection of these necessary commercial phases ever earlier in the year,

so that, as of November 1, a multitude of stores had Christmas decorations, Christmas advertisements, Santa Claus, and all the rest, has a noticeable deleterious effect upon the spiritual observance. In plain language, people get 'tired of Christmas' before the spiritual celebration takes place. With vigor, we protest this lengthening of the Christmas shopping season."

## ANNOUNCE BIBLE MEMORY CONTEST FOR ADULTS

ST. LOUIS, Mo. (EP) With the launching of its twelfth Annual Contest for boys and girls, the Bible Memory Association, Inc., directed by Dr. N. A. Woychuk, announces the inauguration of the first annual Adult Bible Memory Contest for all persons twenty-one years of age and over. Deadline for entries in both contests is January 28, 1955, Dr. Woychuk said. Thereafter, for a period of fifteen weeks, the adults will memorize a verse a day to entitle them to book and magazine subscription awards, in addition to a week at a Bible camp next summer. The regular contest for boys and girls up to twenty-one years of age will go through the usual twelve weeks, with contestants learning an average of twenty verses each week and receiving awards after successful completion of each assignment.

Last year a total of 6,145 boys and girls enrolled; 3,775 of whom completed all the work satisfactorily and 2,026 of whom attended camp. The new adult memory booklet "Let There Be Light" is bound in dark green leatherette, with a gold-stamped cover, and is printed in a handy shirt-pocket size. Its fifteen assignments contain a series of choice scriptures on salvation.

## SOUTH AMERICA RIPE FOR REVIVAL SAYS YFC HEAD

WHEATON, Ill. (EP) "South America is a continent just now coming awake. I found in each country a new awareness of destiny and a new flexing of national muscles. By the same token, Latin America is just now ready for revival among believers and a new surge of New Testament evangelism," reports Dr. Robert A. Cook, president of Youth for Christ International, upon his return from a five-week survey trip throughout Central and South America in connection with the forthcoming 7th World Congress on Evangelism being sponsored by YFC, April 17-24 in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

"The 7th World Congress comes at a time when believers are waiting to be challenged and the unsaved are ready to listen to a message that brings life and hope," further reports Cook. "Never before in the history of Latin America has there been such a combination of circumstances and heart hunger. If revival fires begin to burn in the hearts of Christian leaders gathered in Sao Paulo, all of Latin America will feel the effect."

Cook spent much of his time in Brazil conferring with national leaders, as well as missionaries, concerning plans for the World Congress. Sao Paulo, Brazil, the largest city of the nation, has been selected as the site of the conclave. It is expected that approximately 2,000 delegates will be in attendance from all across Latin America, as well as North America, Europe, and Asia. Following eight days of congress sessions, Cook reports, teams of delegates—missionaries, pastors, evangelists, musicians, business personnel, interpreters, and so forth—will conduct simultaneous campaigns in the major population centers of Brazil.

The Chicago Bible Society offered to replace free of charge any Bible damaged in recent floods that struck the city. The Rev. Don Norman, executive secretary, said a new Bible would be given to anyone who brought in a water-soaked volume. "We don't want any home to be without the comfort of the Scriptures in these trying times," he said.

Boston, Massachusetts, has more than one hundred public school principals. According to a reliable informant, not one is a Protestant and only one is a Jew, the latter in charge of a school for the deaf which no other eligible wanted.

The United States has some 250,000 ministers of the gospel, while only 18,000 American Protestant missionaries are serving the rest of the world.

Israel now has a direct air link with the United States west coast over the North Pole. On November 15, the Scandinavian S.A.S. Airlines initiated flights from Copenhagen—over the North Pole—to Los Angeles. There is already a direct air link between Israel and Copenhagen. The S.A.S. planes will leave twice a week in either direction. The flying time from Lydda to Los Angeles is forty-one hours.

## ANSWERS TO

# Youth's Problems

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*Helps for Servicemen*

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An inspiring appeal to Christian servicemen.  
Paper, 35¢

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"A sympathetic and sane consideration of the vital problems which concern young people."  
*Moody Monthly*.

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" . . . unusually fair in that it presents all possible arguments on both sides of related questions. The plea is for modesty without prudery, and for that wholesome attitude toward sex that springs from right relationship with God." *The Sunday School Times*

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### CHRISTIAN BOY'S PROBLEMS

By Bertrand Williams

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God at the Helm

\$1.00

### CHRISTIAN GIRL'S PROBLEMS

By Bertrand Williams

"This volume is to give teen-age girls the solution to the confusing problems of critical adolescent years." *Evangelical Beacon*

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How Far Can You Go?  
When Love Comes

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### HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR VOCATION

By Leslie Parrott

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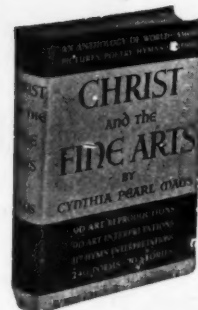
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## THE CHAOS OF CULTS

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